Mr. Thomas J. Davis
Aries Arts
201 Capitola Ave.,
Capitola, Ca. 95010

Rt. 12, Feederick, Md. 21701
4/26/77

Dear Tom,

Reur 4/22, you are an honotable man, as I try to be. I know of no special value to the Dell edition of Whitewash, although if it is other than their first printing I'd like to have it. They made 4. They claim without selling much more than half of the first printing. I have a copy of the 4th, without which I'd neverhave known. It was never in any of the few accountings I received.

Oswald in New Orleans, which I did not print, is a rare book and a collector's item. Accounts reaching me price it at up to $75, $40-$50 being more common. The few copies we have, which we do not advertise, I'm letting go to serious scholars at the local cost of xerox replacement, $21. But please don't tell anyone I have any copies. I have remarkably few. (There could be some thousands in the basement of the Pacific Avenue place in which Jonn Christian once lived but I have no way of knowing. Only that he claimed to have left them there some years ago.)

I am the publisher of Whitewash and I have not let it get out of print. I'm down to first editions and damaged returns but I'm sealing them as I come to them without increasing the cost. When they are close to gone I'll reprint, as I've done with the third of the Whitewash series.

I wish there were a simple and comprehensible way of approaching those you call bonafide, serious researchers. And my relations with them. Those you mention, Mae and Penn, are without doubt the most sincere of people. But this does not mean that I have to believe all their theories. Or that because they have theorized it become instant fact. Penn is about to denounce me with as much irrationality as one can expect from those not institutionalized. It will not be for the first time and it will not be after even the most perfunctory checking. The insanity will not survive careful reading, leave alone checking. If he goes ahead it will be over the unchecked allegations of an extremist politician of the far right. Immune because in the Congressional Record. Not that I would think of suing Penn. And not that he has not survived more irresponsibility that one could hope to in a very long lifetime. He forgets all these things because people do not sue him.

Mae has her beliefs about de Mohrenschildt. He and the CIA have to made unprecedented improvements over the most exceptional capabilities attributed to voodoo for de M to have been Oswald's so-called baby sitter after an absence of more than a half year and all the way from Haiti.

The only explanatuon I can give you of Lane is that he is sick and driven by the recognition deep inside that for all the attention he has been able to attract to himself he is without a single legitimate accomplishment he can call his own. Except getting away with regular thievery and getting rich. He is unscrupulous and was one of the worst of the man bad influences on Garrison. His influence with the committee comes from the fact that without doing any real work he had plenty of time for lobbying and for knifing and from the fabrication of a hoax for which Fauntroy and the black caucus went, that the FBI had killed King. Because he is bright and an exceptionally able propagandist it is tragic that he has to be a sick and incompetent crook with it, egomaniacal with it.

To the degree I can I shun all those controversies you refer to. However, as I hope you can understand, when I cannot avoid them and I am being heard by people I cannot lie. If perfection is not a state of man I recall no complaints about my accuracy.

You have a perfect right to disagree with my view, which is that on something as basic as the consequences of the political assassination I will not go to the people with idle theories, will not consciously mislead them and will stick to fact, not an interpretation I describe as fact. This does separate me from some. Best wishes,